

TEUTONS RAID TOWNS NEAR VERDUN

FRENCH FACE
NEW ASSAULT
ON FORTRESS

Intensity of Verdun Battle
Grows as Germans Rush
the Strongholds.

LOSSES ARE GREAT

Teuton Forces Charge Forts
in Masses Without Count-
ing Cost of Life.

Berlin, March 8, (via London, 3:15 p. m.)—The capture of a French position west of the Meuse on both sides of the Forges brook below Bethincourt, six kilometres wide and three kilometres deep was announced today by German army headquarters.

It was also announced that the villages of Forges and Regneville, the heights of Raben and the Cumieres woods were in German possession.

The capture of 58 officers, 3,277 men and 10 cannons is officially reported. In the Woerwe district the French were driven out of the last houses they held in the village of Fresnes. More than 700 prisoners were made.

German aeroplane squadrons dropped bombs on the villages west of Verdun which are occupied by the enemy. Russian local attacks were repulsed at several points in the eastern zone. In the Balkan zone there was nothing to report.

Paris, March 8, (via London, 1:25 p. m.)—In the Champagne the French have recaptured portions of the trenches lost on March 6 according to semi-official announcement made here today.

The situation north of Verdun is unchanged. No infantry attacks were made last night, the announcement says. Artillery fighting continues.

French Report.

The communication issued by the French war office this afternoon says: "In the Champagne district we launched an attack which placed us again in possession of trenches occupied by the enemy March 6. We took 85 prisoners, including three officers and captured a machine gun."

"In the Argonne our artillerymen shelled the highways in the vicinity of Mount Faucon over which it was reported that automobile transports were making their way."

"In the region north of Verdun no change has been reported."

"There has been spirited artillery fighting in the Woerwe. We have bombarded Blanzac, Grimaucaud and the environs of Fresnes."

Fighting is Intense.

The battle of Verdun developed both in intensity and in extent all day yesterday and is now raging along the line from Cheppy in the Argonne to Fresnes in the Woerwe, showing that the second attack for the stronghold is to be made on a larger scale than the first. So far, according to the reports received here, the Germans, by employing masses of men without counting cost, obtained some slight gains both to the west of the Meuse and in the Woerwe, where they carried Fresnes after a fierce struggle.

Desperate fighting is again going on on the left bank of the river. Following up the advantage of yesterday, the Germans, going around the foot of the slope, which served them as a mask, followed the railroad and entered Regneville. From there they launched 15,000 men against hill No. 265, to the east of Cote de L'Oie, and carried it. Thus they control the loop of the Meuse within which Regneville is located. The French withdrew their right front within the loop and it now rests on the Meuse above Cumieres. This withdrawal from an advanced position on the left bank became necessary according to the military experts in order to maintain alignment with the positions on the right bank, and it would have been difficult to hold the advanced point which the Germans could at the same time attack in front and on the flank.

Rush Tactics Employed.

Having thus obtained command of the slopes leading to the principal French positions which run from Bethincourt to Cote de L'Oie, by the northeastern spur of Le Mort Homme and the woods of Corbeaux and Cumieres, the Germans without losing a moment's time hurled masses of infantry against these positions. They gained a footing in the Corbeaux wood, but elsewhere their attacks were repulsed with heavy losses. In this district centers at present the chief interest of the battle and the supreme effort of the German troops is awaited by the French with confidence, as they rely on the strength of their defensive preparations.

ROCK ISLAND YOUTH
DIES IN TEXAS FIRE

Horace M. Cross.

The fatal fire in the El Paso, Texas, jail Monday night is said to have been started by Horace M. Cross, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Cross of Rock Island. He was one of the 18 who lost their lives.

Chinese Tong
Leaders Out
on Warpath

San Francisco, March 8.—Tong leaders in San Francisco's Chinese quarter received a warning today from the chief of police which stated that unless peace was made immediately between Suey Ong and Hop Sing tongs he would declare a blockade upon Chinatown and warn all tourists to stay away from the quarter.

The dead walls in Chinatown today flamed with red posters cautioning tong members against mistakes in the slaying of their enemies. The posters, translated, read:

"Gunmen, before shooting, will use every precaution to ascertain the tong connections of the men they are about to kill."

"No more mistakes will be tolerated. It would be better to lose a man than to involve a society in difficulty over the shooting of a wrong one."

Latest Bulletins

Dixon, Ill., March 8.—Captain Harvey J. Angle, quartermaster of the Fifth infantry, I. N. G., was killed here today when the automobile he was driving overturned.

London, March 8.—Emperor William has received Commander Von Dohna, of the German commerce raider Moeve and personally presented him with the Order Le Merite, according to a Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam.

El Paso, Tex., March 8.—Accredited but unconfirmed reports received today by General Gabriel Gaviro, at Juarez, state that two Americans named Franklin and Wright, were killed Monday at Pescacho, by Villa bandits between Casas Grandes and Janos, Chihuahua.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 8.—With unofficial returns of yesterday's primary in from almost half of the 3,177 precincts in the state Harry S. New this afternoon was leading in the race for the republican nomination for United States senator with former Congressman James E. Watson a close second.

Dodge City, Kas., March 8.—Telephone messages from Bloom, Ford county, today said the prairie fire that began near there late yesterday still was burning over a stretch nine miles wide and 20 miles long. Ten houses and many smaller buildings have been destroyed.

Columbus, N. M., March 8.—With three American cattle men presumably held as prisoners, Francisco Villa was reported today with between 200 and 300 men at a point on the Boca Grande river in Chihuahua, fifteen miles west of Columbus and 27 miles south of the border.

St. Paul, March 8.—A bandit this afternoon held up the Security State bank and escaped with \$1,000.

Fairbanks, Alaska, March 8.—It was reported today that three soldiers were killed and two seriously injured in a fire that yesterday destroyed the main barracks and ammunition houses at Fort Gibbon, occupied by Company B, 11th infantry.

WILSON BACK
AT SUB ISSUE
WITH BERLIN

Firmly Supported by Con-
gress President Renews
Negotiations.

INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN

Count Bernstorff Presents
Documents Bearing the
German Viewpoint.

(Text memorandum on page 2.)

Washington, March 8.—With congress standing squarely behind him, President Wilson was prepared today to go ahead with the submarine negotiations with the central powers.

After an all-day contest, such as has seldom been witnessed, the house last night answered the president's demand for a "showdown" on congressional sentiment on the armed ship issue. By a vote of 276 to 142 the house tabled the McLenore resolution to warn Americans off armed ships.

This action, together with that in the senate in killing a similar resolution has freed the president from the embarrassment forced upon him by the dissensions in congress.

His victory complete after a long and sensational fight, was regarded by the president and his advisers as a sufficient answer to reports circulated in Berlin that he was making demands on Germany in direct opposition to the sentiment of the elected representatives of the people. Mr. Wilson is hopeful there will be as little further discussion of the issue in congress as possible.

Memorandum Presented.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, today, at the instruction of his government, handed to Secretary Lansing a long memorandum explaining in detail the German position in regard to armed merchant ships and the causes leading up to the decision of the central European powers to torpedo without warning all armed merchantmen of their enemies.

Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff declined to divulge its contents. It is understood to contain the allegation that Great Britain had taken advantage of the contention of the United States that Americans must be safe on defensively armed merchantmen, to have those ships act offensively toward enemy submarines.

Willing to Observe Laws.

The German government, it is understood, concedes that as submarines are a new engine of warfare, international law makes no provision for their use.

The German government is understood to express a willingness to operate its submarines in accordance with international law prevailing prior to the war, providing Great Britain does not violate the same laws.

Proof Against British.

It is understood that the memorandum contends that evidence appended to the late German announcement proves that British ships armed ostensibly for defense have been instructed to act and have acted offensively and that they are not peaceful traders as the United States was assured they would be by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador.

The memorandum is understood to reiterate previous declarations that submarine warfare was begun by Germany in reprisal for the announced intention of Great Britain to starve the civilian population of the central empires and also is understood to refer to the long friendship between the United States and Germany with hope that the American people will appreciate the position Germany finds herself in as a result of the blockade.

Supporting the contention that Germany's reprisals are justified, the memorandum is said to enumerate various actions of Great Britain which have operated against the interests of neutrals and their citizens.

To sustain the German contentions it is pointed out that Germany agreed to abide by certain terms of the declaration of London but that inasmuch as Great Britain has not restrained her actions to conform with the terms of that declaration, Germany cannot be expected to agree to operate under a code which Great Britain disregards.

RECALLED MAYOR OF
SEATTLE ELECTED

Seattle, Wash., March 8.—Returns early today on yesterday's municipal election bore out last night's estimate of a majority of 6,000 for Hiram J. Gill, recalled mayor. Mayor Gill's opponent was Austin E. Griffith, former chief of police.

MINERS MEET TO
RATIFY INCREASE

Joint Conference Being Held With Operators End of Completion of Two-Year Agreement.

New York, March 8.—The joint conference of bituminous miners and operators from the middle west met here today to ratify the wage agreement drawn up by the subcommittee of employers and employees to go into effect April 1 for a period of two years. The subcommittee completed its work late last night after sessions that lasted over nine days.

The agreement provides for wage increases that will amount to more than \$8,000,000 a year in western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The increases will have an important bearing on the wage contracts that are to be negotiated in the soft coal fields of central Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Michigan, Iowa and Kentucky in the near future and later in the year in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Wyoming, Montana and Washington.

After the new wage contract is ratified by the conference today it will be submitted to the policy committee of the United Mineworkers, which will direct that the agreement be submitted to a national convention of the miners or to a referendum vote of the soft coal membership of the organization. It is expected the policy committee will ask for a referendum vote. The national officers of the union do not anticipate any trouble in obtaining approval of the new contract despite the fact that the officers of the Indiana miners are not satisfied with the increases granted.

HYDROAEROPLANE IS
BEING BUILT HERE

Buffalo, N. Y., March 8.—A local manufacturer of engines for aeroplanes today received from a North Tonawanda boat manufacturing company the body of which is said to be the largest hydroaeroplane that has been built in America. When completed it will carry 34 men. After being equipped with motors and propellers, it is said, it will be shipped to Great Britain.

When fully equipped, ready for service, this flying boat will weigh 21,000 pounds. The body is 55 feet long and is completely enclosed. In it will be for motors of 240 horse power for flying purposes and one 200 horse power motor for propelling the machine on the water. When three sets of planes are constructed the machine will be 120 feet from tip to tip. The hull has two gasoline tanks, which have a total capacity of about one thousand gallons. Apartments are constructed in the body for food and ammunition. The hull is of cypress.

LORIMER TRIAL IS
AGAIN POSTPONED

Chicago, March 8.—Trial of William Lorimer, former United States senator, which was to have resumed today after a postponement of several days, again was postponed by agreement until next Monday because of the illness of William E. Dever, presiding judge. Lorimer is charged with conspiracy and embezzlement in connection with the wrecking of the La Salle Street Trust and Savings bank of Chicago.

THE WAR
TODAY

Pausing on the ground they had won on Monday and Tuesday in their impetuous dash southward to the west of the Meuse, the forces of the German crown prince, fighting for Verdun, failed to continue last night their driving attacks on the attacks on the French lines. Renewal of the great battle, however, is being momentarily awaited.

The assault on the fortress is now being pressed along the four mile front from north of Cumieres, near the river to Bethincourt, where the Germans have pressed forward into the Corbeaux woods, between Dead Man and Goose hills, the commanding positions held by the French in this sector.

By heavy bombardment followed by an infantry attack the Germans were able yesterday to gain a foothold in Corbeaux Wood, northward of Verdun and to capture Hill 265 to the southeast. Their casualties were very heavy according to a Paris report. The attack extended over the entire front from Bethincourt to the Meuse river, but with the exception of the two points mentioned, the French held back the Germans. Thus the French still hold the important strategic positions on the heights of the Cote de L'Oie, for the possession of which numerous battles have been fought. It is estimated that the Germans have advanced about three miles since they took the town of Forges.

The Germans have recaptured from the French a position in Champagne, have pushed their line forward in the Argonne forest and have expelled small British detachments from captured German trenches northeast of Verdun, according to a German official report.

According to the current official statement from Constantinople the British army under General Aylmer on the way to the relief of General Townsend at Kut-el-Marra, has been making renewed efforts to advance. It is declared, however, that all its attempts failed.

Rome advices indicate that Italy has determined to make every effort to retain possession of the Avlona section, at the southern end of Albania. Allied troops have withdrawn from virtually all the other Albanian territory to the north in the face of the Austrian advance southward.

THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and vicinity.

Increasing cloudiness and warmer tonight, with the lowest temperature about 20 to 25 degrees. Thursday, unsettled and warmer.

Temperature at 7 a. m., 15. Highest yesterday, 30. Lowest last night, 15. Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 8 miles per hour.

Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 80; at 7 a. m., 79; at 1 p. m. today, 42.

Stage of water, 8.2; a fall of 4 in last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

DEATH OF WOMAN
GUEIST MYSTERY

Wife of Lew Shaw, Noted Billiard Expert, Dies Suddenly in Chicago Restaurant.

Chicago, March 8.—Circumstances surrounding the death of Mrs. Nellie Shaw, 50 years old, said to be an expert billiardist, in a crowded downtown restaurant last night, are being investigated today. She was the wife of Lew Shaw, also a billiardist who is said to be making a tour of Illinois and Iowa.

Mrs. Shaw, accompanied by two other women, whose names have not been learned, entered the restaurant and ordered supper. Half an hour later two of the women left and shortly afterward it was discovered that Mrs. Shaw, who remained at the table, was dead.

A physician who examined the body said the death might have been caused either by poison or heart disease.

INDICT ALLEGED
WAGE TRUST MEN

Youngstown, Ohio, March 8.—Indictments were returned today by the Mahoning county grand jury against the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, the Republic Iron and Steel company, the Brier Hill Steel company, the Youngstown Iron and Steel company, the Carnegie Steel company, the United States Steel company and Judge E. H. Gary, executive chairman of the United States Steel company.

The defendants are charged with forming a trust to fix the wages of common labor. The indictments follow a sweeping investigation of the recent East Youngstown labor riots.

SHIFT RESIDENCE
MONTENEGRO'S KING

Lyons, March 8.—The seat of the government of Montenegro has been transferred from Lyons to Bordeaux. The king and the other members of the royal family with the cabinet officers left here last night to take up their new residence in a mansion which has been prepared for them near the city of Bordeaux.

AMERICAN IS FREED
FROM GERMAN CAMP

Rotterdam, March 8, (via London, 10:37 a. m.)—One American citizen and seven British subjects from Ruhleben, the German detention camp for civilians in Germany, located near Berlin, have arrived here on their way to England. The American is Eugene Smith of Springfield, Mass., who has been a prisoner in Germany for six months.

DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.
Brandels inquiry continued.
Shields water power bill in final debate.

WATER.
Naval committee continued hearings on appropriation bill.
Calendar bills continued.

ILLINOIS DAM
IS USED FOR
PRIVATE GAIN

Charge Made That State
Property Is Being Con-
trolled by Capital.

ASK GOV. DUNNE'S AID

Trustees Appeal to Execu-
tive to Get Release of
Public Utility.

Springfield, Ill., March 8.—Trustees of the sanitary district of Chicago, and members of the Illinois and Michigan canal commission conferred today with Governor Dunne. "We want the governor to help us to get control of the power dam at Joliet, now leased by the public service corporation of northern Illinois," said James M. Dailley, chairman of the finance committee of the sanitary district. "This power should be used for public and not private gain."

"The conference was called by Governor Dunne," said Trustee Wallace Clark of the sanitary district.

"We told the governor this dam at Joliet should be developed to its fullest extent and all the power used for the public good. The governor said he was for the public every time."

Controlled 60 Years.

The trustees explained that the power dam, which belongs to the state, and which is leased at 20 years intervals by the commissioners of the Illinois and Michigan canal has been controlled for the past 60 years by what is now the Public Service Corporation of Northern Illinois. "They pay the state, or rather the canal commission \$9,500 annually," said Chairman Dailley. "If the power were developed to its limit it would be worth much more than this—at least seven or eight times as much. We want the governor to lend us his influence with the commissioners so that they will make the development of the power at Joliet a requirement in the next advertisement for bidders to lease the power. If this is done we don't believe we will have any competition. If we get the contract or rather the lease, we will use much of the power to light the city of Chicago."

State Could Use Money.

President Sherman Marshall of Ipaiva, of the I. and M. canal commission said the governor believed the money derived from the power dam could be used to widen and deepen the canal between Chicago and Joliet, so that it would meet the requirements of the proposed Illinois deep waterway.

The public service corporation's contract for the power dam expires in July, it was stated, and the canal commissioners will advertise for bids some time in May.

YOUNGSTOWN PLANT
GIVES BIG BONUSES

Youngstown, Ohio, March 8.—The Sixth annual distribution of bonuses to employees under its profit sharing plan, is being made today by the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company. Over \$250,000 will be given to the 5,000 employees eligible to participate, the bonuses representing five per cent of the annual wages for the year of 1915. Over \$1,100,000 has now been distributed by this company under the plan. The federal labor department has made a special investigation of the system used by the sheet and tube company.

GAIN NO RELIEF FOR
TRAFFIC CONDITION

Washington, March 8.—The interstate commerce commission considered today suggestions to solve the problems of freight congestion at the eastern terminals of trunk line railroads and of car shortage in the west. A two days' conference between the commission, the carriers, the shippers and others adjourned last night. No plan of relief was reached but it was agreed the prompt action was called for.

TOOL MAKERS ARE
ON STRIKE IN EAST

Franklin, Pa., March 8.—Machinists of the Chicago Pneumatic Tool company, the Colburn Machine Tool company and the Producers' Supply company here are on a strike for reinstatement of discharged men, an increase of 20 per cent in wages, an eight hour day and better shop conditions. The plants employ 700 men but so far only about two hundred are affected.